

Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR, ECON, CA

SUBJECT: STUDY ON U.S.-CANADA RELATIONS

1. MONTREAL ANGLOPHONE AND FRANCOPHONE DAILIES OF JULY 27, 1976 GAVE EXTENSIVE NEWS COVERAGE TO ANNOUNCEMENT OF CANADIAN-AMERICAN COMMITTEE STUDY ON U.S.-CANADA RELATIONS ENTILED, "A TIME OF DIFFICULT TRANSITIONS: CANADA-U.S. RELATIONS IN 196".

2. THE GAZETTE AND LE DEVOIR CARRIED FRONT-PAGE CANADIAN PRESS STORIES DATELINED WASHINGTON. THE GAZETTE ALSO CARRIED ARTICLE BY ONE OF ITS REPORTERS ON FIRST PAGE OF ITS BUSINESS SECTION TITLED, "CANADA RISKING U.S. REACTION OVER ENERGY", HIGHLIGHTING ASPECTS OF COMMITTEE STUDY DEALING WITH ENERGY AND THE AUTO PACT. NO OTHER SUBJECT HAS DISTURBED U.S.-CANADIAN RELATIONS ASMUCH AS TRADE ON ENERGY, CITES THE GAZETTE, ADDING THAT CANADA'S "HIGH-HANDED METHODS IN DEALING WITH THE U.S. OVER ENERGY PROBLEMS" MAY PUSH THE U.S. TO SOLVE ITS ENERGY PROBLEMS ON ITS OWN. THIS WOULD LEAVE CANADA WITHOUT THE MARKET OUTLETS IT WILL NEED TO DEVELOP ITS FRONTIER ENERGY RESOURCES IN THE LATE 1980'S AND 1990'S. THE STUDY, ADDS THE GAZETTE, RECOGNIZES CANADA'S NEED TO PROTECT ITS

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OIL AND GAS DEPOSITS BUT THE NEED FOR INDEPENDENCE MUST NOT RULE

OUT "THE EFFICIENCIES TO BE GAINED FROM COOPERATION".

3. LA PRESSE CARRIED BASICALLY STRAIGHT NEWS ARTICLE BY ONE OF ITS REPORTERS. ARTICLE POINTS OUT THAT CANADA SEEMS TO BE GOING FURTHER THAN IS NECESSARY IN ATTEMPTING TO REDUCE ITS DEPENDENCE ON THE U.S. AND CARVE OUT ITS OWN IDENTITY IN ECONOMIC, CULTURAL AND DIPLOMATIC MATTERS. THIS THREATENS TO CREATE A BACKLASH AMONG AN INCREASING NUMBER OF U.S. CITIZENS AND RAISES THE QUESTION WHETHER CANADA HAS SUFFICIENTLY CONSIDERED DISTINCTION BETWEEN ITS SHORT-TERM POLITICAL OBJECTIVES AND ITS LONGER-TERM ECONOMIC OBJECTIVES. HOWEVER, THE TITLE OF THE ARTICLE, "OTTAWA MUST ASK ITSELF WHETHER IT IS FOLLOWING THE BEST STRATEGY WITH REGARD TO THE U.S.", SETS THE TONE OF LA PRESSE'S REPORTING ON THE STUDY.

4. CONGEN TRANSMITTING COPIES OF CANADIAN-AMERICAN COMMITTEE SUMMARY OF ITS STUDY FOR INFORMATION OF WASHINGTON AGENCIES.
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